

Help Us Fight Port-Orford-cedar Root Disease

The root disease that kills Port-Orford-cedar can spread only if carried from infested to uninfested drainages. You can help slow the spread of the disease by taking the following precautions:

- Avoid unnecessary travel across infested drainages and on dirt roads when soils are wet.
- If you enter any of the infested areas shown on this map, wash mud from the tires and under carriage of your vehicle before traveling to another area.
- Don't remove seedlings from infested areas for planting elsewhere.
- When constructing new roads, place them downstream from stands of Port-Orford-cedar where possible and construct them only during the driest part of summer.
- Use cable or skyline equipment when salvaging infected Port-Orford-cedar.
- Wash all tractors and other equipment after timber harvest in infested areas. Never move equipment directly to an uninfested Port-Orford-cedar area without thoroughly cleaning it.

Infested Areas

The areas shown in yellow on the map are known to be infested. Other areas may be added if prevention efforts fail.

Your cooperation will reduce the spread of the disease and help save healthy Port-Orford-cedar from lethal infection.



Information

If you spot infected Port-Orford-cedar either in your community or in the wild, you can report it to the following Forest Service offices. This will help the Forest Service monitor the spread of the disease. These offices can also give you detailed information about infested sites in areas where you may plan to travel.

KLAMATH NATIONAL FOREST

1312 Fairlane Road
Yreka, CA 96097
(916) 842-6131

SIX RIVERS NATIONAL FOREST

507 F Street
Eureka, CA 95501
(707) 442-1721

SHASTA—TRINITY NATIONAL FORESTS

2400 Washington Avenue
Redding, CA 96001
(916) 246-5222

SISKIYOU NATIONAL FOREST

P.O. Box 440
Grants Pass, OR 97526
(503) 479-5301

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United States Department of Agriculture
Forest Service
Pacific Northwest Region
Pacific Southwest Region

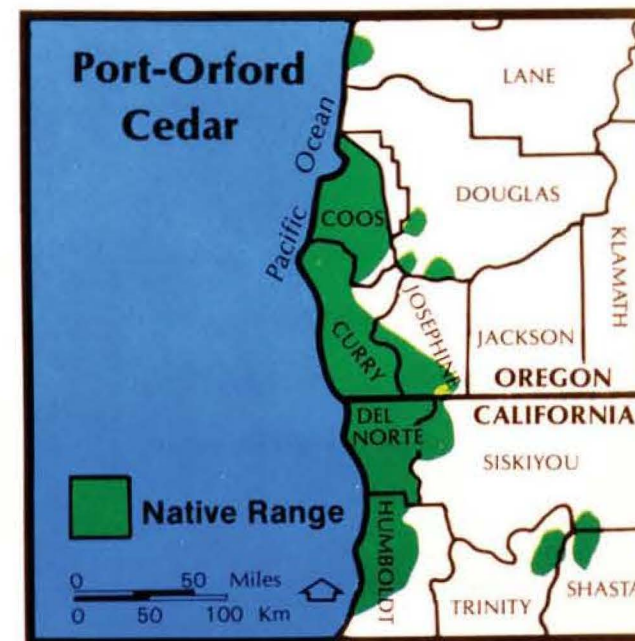
Port-Orford-cedar Root Disease

The Port-Orford-cedar is being attacked by a fatal root disease. Once infected, the trees die. The disease has not yet reached all areas of the tree's native range. This brochure describes the fungus that kills Port-Orford-cedar and tells how you can help slow its spread.

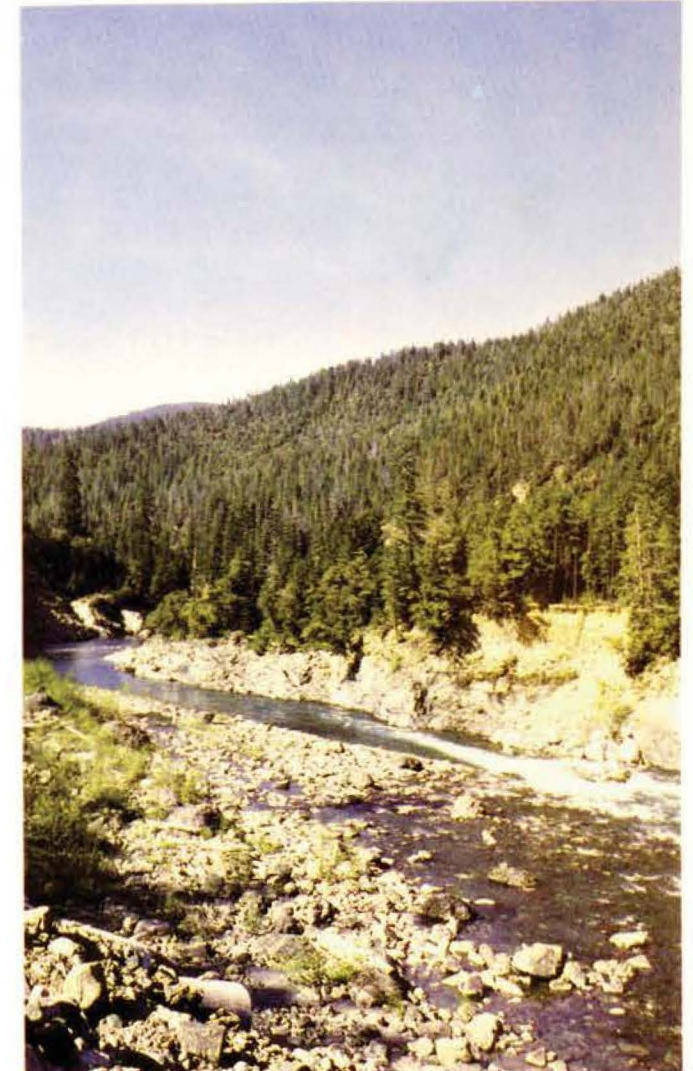
The Port-Orford-cedar is native to southwestern Oregon and northwestern California. The tree is widely used for landscape plantings, hedges, and windbreaks throughout the northwest.

A root disease fungus began killing ornamental Port-Orford-cedar as early as 1922, mainly in areas far north of the native range.

By 1952, the fungus had spread into the native range of Port-Orford-cedar in Oregon. Infected seedlings planted on homesites in lowland and mountain drainages brought the fungus to backcountry watersheds. Runoff water, streamflow, cattle, and vehicles carried the fungus through the watershed, killing Port-Orford-cedar trees in its path.



The natural range of Port-Orford-cedar is southwestern Oregon and northwestern California, roughly from Coos Bay to the Mad River drainage in Humboldt County. The tree also grows at higher elevation on the Shasta-Trinity National Forest.



The Middle Fork and South Fork of the Smith River are the main infested drainages in California. Vehicle traffic in and out of drainages along Highway 199 to Crescent City is the main route of spread.

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Coordinating Group*

The State of Oregon attempted to warn people about the danger and managed to obtain voluntary control of commercial planting stock sold by nurseries, but private individuals continued to remove seedlings from infested areas and plant them in uninfested drainages.

In 1980, plant pathologists spotted the fungus in native stands of Port-Orford-cedar in California for the first time.

How the fungus spreads...

Once established in a watershed, the fungus can spread rapidly. The good news is that it cannot

move from one drainage to another on its own. It must be carried to other areas.

Homeowners can spread the fungus if they bring infected seedlings into an uninfested drainage for ornamental planting. Hikers may carry mud clods infested with fungus spores from one drainage to another.

But the major causes of spread are trucks, road building and logging equipment, and off-road vehicles that carry mud containing the fungus from infested to uninfested drainages.

How you can help...

The infested roads and drainages in California and Oregon have been identified and are shown on the large map.

The main route of spread from Oregon into California is Highway 199 along the Middle and South Forks of the Smith River.

The Forest Service requests that you take special precautions when traveling or working in or near the infested areas shown on the large map. With care, the spread of the fungus can be reduced.

Still hope...

It is possible to minimize the threat to the remaining healthy Port-Orford-cedar if we can confine the fungus to infested drainages. Movement to new watersheds is only in transported soil.

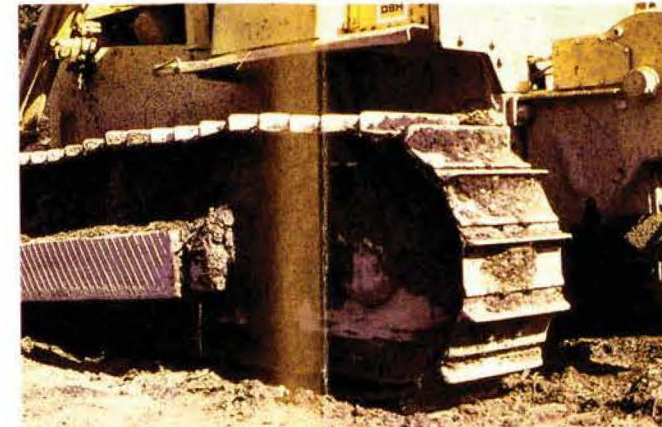


Loss of the trees blights the landscape.

The fungus kills roots, the foliage yellows and withers, and the cambium layer turns brown at the base of the tree. In the forest the soil-borne fungus attacks only Port-Orford-cedar.



Transplanting infected wild seedlings is a cause of spread to uninfested drainages.



The fungus spreads in mud clods that adhere to tires and undercarriages of trucks and other vehicles. The most hazardous season is October through April when soils are wet and vehicles pick up mud easily.



Port-Orford-cedar is a valuable export to Japan where it is used for building temples and making ceremonial artifacts. Value of the tree rose from \$1 a board foot in 1972 to the present \$3 a board foot.

